



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Takeshi Tsubouchi

Group Art Unit: 3731

Application No.: 10/630,748

Examiner: M. G. Mendoza

Filing Date: July 31, 2003

Confirmation No.: 9932

Title: ADJUSTABLE COUPLING MECHANISM FOR THE CONDUIT ON A VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE

**AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the  \$55.00 (2814)  \$110.00 (1814) fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
- Also enclosed is/are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the  \$385.00 (2801)  \$770.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- Applicant(s) previously submitted \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_, for which continued examination is requested.
- Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least \_\_\_\_\_, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

No additional claim fee is required.

An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	11	MINUS 20 =	0	x \$18.00 (1202) =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	0	x \$86.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$290.00 (1203)					
Total Claim Amendment Fee					
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					

A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.

Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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Date: September 16, 2004

By Wendi Weinstein  
Wendi Leigh Weinstein  
Registration No. 34,456



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 033528-006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of ) **MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT**  
Takeshi Tsubouchi )  
Application No.: 10/630,748 ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
Filed: July 31, 2003 ) Examiner: M. G. Mendoza  
For: ADJUSTABLE COUPLING ) Confirmation No.: 9932  
MECHANISM FOR THE CONDUIT )  
ON A VENTRICULAR ASSIST )  
DEVICE )

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 16, 2004, having a three-month shortened statutory response period in which this Amendment is being timely filed, please amend the above identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page two of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the claim summary which begins on page three of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page seven of this paper.